

REMARKS:

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Restriction Requirement

The claims have been divided into the following three groups:

- I. Claims 1-26, 29-35 and 37-38
- II. Claims 27-28
- III. Claim 39.

Accordingly, Applicant elects Group I and cancels the remaining claims.

Request for Interview

If any issues remain, the Examiner is formally requested to contact the undersigned attorney prior to issuance of the next Office Action in order to arrange a telephonic interview. It is believed that a brief discussion of the merits of the present application may expedite prosecution.

This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by a written request.

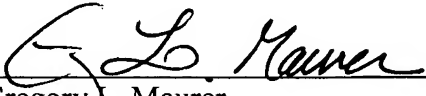
Conclusion

The claims in their present form should now be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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